

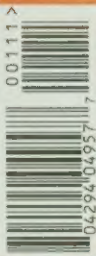


MORTAL KOMBAT[®] Kung Lao[™]



Charles Marshall
Tim Divar
Abraham Madison

DIRECT EDITION



HIS IS A LEGACY
OF FAILURE.

AND NOW YOU MAY ADD TO HIS CHARGE
THE FALL OF THOSE WHO WOULD OFFER
HOPE TO THIS DESOLATE LAND.

TO THIS PLACE
CALLED OUTWORLD.

CALL HIM

KUNG LAO.

THROUGHOUT HIS LINEAGE, FATHER HAS PASSED
ON TO SON, A SENSE OF FUTILITY AS THOUGH
IT WERE SOME SACRED HEIRLOOM.

BUT KUNG LAO'S INADEQUACIES
HAVE NOW ECLIPSED EVEN
THOSE OF HIS FOREFATHERS.

AND IT
APPEARS
THERE WILL
BE NO
FURTHER
DESCENDANTS
TO BEAR HIS
SHAME.

THIS IS...

MORTAL KOMBAT

Rising Son

Charles Marshall • writer Tim Diver • penciller


Abraham Madison • inker Ronnie Cruz • letterer

Dan Shabene • asst. editor

Mark Paniccia • editor

based on characters created by Ed Boon and John Tobias

colored by: Jennifer Schellinger



HE WAS PART OF A MOVEMENT
TO BRING CHANGE TO THIS
IMPOVERISHED LAND.*

THERE WERE OTHERS
WHO SHARED HIS DREAM
OF REVOLUTION.




THE LIN KUEI
WARRIOR CALLED
SUB-ZERO.

THE MANIACAL
MUTANT NAMED
BARAKA.

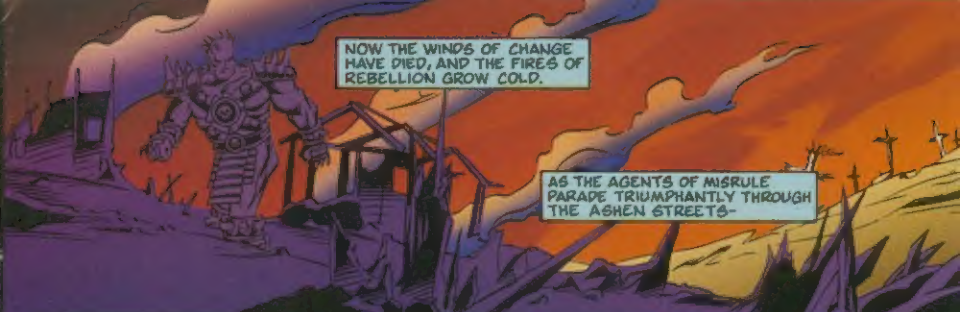


*SEE BATTLEWAVE
ISSUES 2-6...D.S.




THEIR WELL-LAID PLANS
PROVED TO BE LESS
THAN SUFFICIENT...

...AGAINST THE CUNNING
AND CRUELTY OF THE
EMPEROR SHAO KAHN.




NOW THE WINDS OF CHANGE
HAVE DIED, AND THE FIRES OF
REBELLION GROW COLD.


AS THE AGENTS OF MISRULE
PARADE TRIUMPHANTLY THROUGH
THE ASHEN STREETS-



THE PLANS OF THE
FAST HAVE BEEN
LAID TO WASTE.




AND EVIL HAS INHERITED A
MOST PERILOUS FUTURE.



ALL BECAUSE HE
COULD NOT SEE...




... COULD NOT SEE...




WHAT SHOULD
HAVE BEEN OBVIOUS IS
NOW PLAIN TO SEE.

IT WAS FOLLY
TO BELIEVE OUR ACTIONS
WOULD GO UNNOTICED BY
THE DARK EMPEROR.


IT SHOULD NOT HAVE
TAKEN A VISIONQUEST TO
REALIZE THE TRUTH.




OUR PLANS HAVE
BEEN COMPROMISED
FROM THE START.



"AND KUNG LAO MUST
QUICKLY PASS ALONG
WHAT HE HAS LEARNED."



AH, COLD WARRIOR. I
DO NOT USUALLY HEAR
YOUR APPROACH.




YOU HAVE
UNCOMMONLY KEEN
EARS, KUNG LAD.

OTHERS WOULD
NOT HAVE HEARD
SUB-ZERO.

UNTIL IT WAS
TOO LATE.


IT MAY BE
TOO LATE ALREADY,
MY FRIEND.




THE DARK
EMPEROR
KNOWS OF
OUR PLANS.



YES,
I KNOW.



WHAT ? WHY
DID YOU SAY
NOTHING ?



IN TIMES PAST,
THE LIN KUEI WERE
ALLIES WITH THE
DARK EMPEROR.

GIVEN THE
CURRENT STATE
OF AFFAIRS,
PERHAPS IT IS TIME
TO RENEW
THOSE TIES.

FWOOOSSHH!



THERE IS SOMETHING
IN THE LIN KUEI WARRIOR'S
VOICE, A CHILL KUNG LAO
HAS NEVER HEARD BEFORE.



THE WORDS AND BLOWS
HURT EQUALLY, BUT KUNG
LAO IS NO STRANGER TO PAIN.



WHUMPH

AARRRRGGGH!

I DO NOT
KNOW WHAT
INSPIRED SUCH
TREACHERY...

...BUT KUNG
LAO SHALL MAKE
CERTAIN THAT IT
DOES NOT GO
UNPUNISHED!

...NOOOO...

I CAN SPARE
NO MORE TIME WITH
THIS SENSELESS
CONFLICT.

KUNG LAO MUST
FIND THE OTHERS WHO
HAVE NOT ABANDONED
THE CAUSE.





THE EMPEROR
IS AWARE OF OUR
PLANS BARAKA

WE MUST
FIND LADY KITANA
WARN HER..


THIS FOG HAS
AN UNNATURAL
FEEL TO IT

MUST CLEAR MY
SENSES REACH
OUT AND..

...YOU!!

KUNG LAO, I
KNEW THAT YOU
WOULD COME

COME IN
MY HOUR OF
NEED.

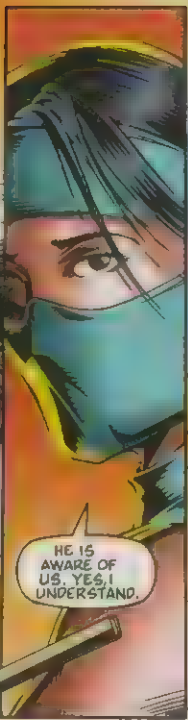


OF ALL THOSE WHO
HAVE PLOTTED WITH ME
AGAINST THE DARK
EMPEROR

NONE HAS BEEN
MORE LOYAL THAN
KUNG LAO.

MORE
LOYAL TO
KITANA.


THE
EMPEROR



HE IS
AWARE OF
US. YES, I
UNDERSTAND.



THEN WE
MUST ACT!



YES, MY FRIEND.
IT IS TIME FOR
US TO ACT

ACT UPON OUR
DESIRES.

ACT UPON OUR
PASSIONS.



WHAAAAACCCKK!!

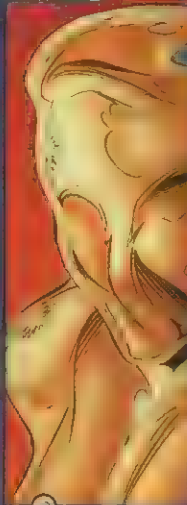
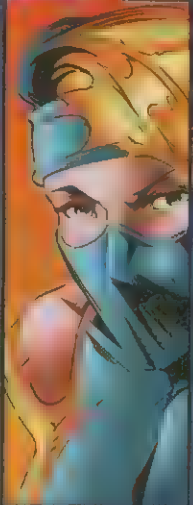
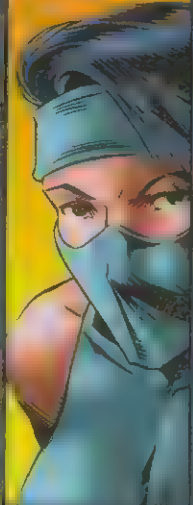
THERE MAY BE
FOG IN OUTWORLD, BUT
KUNG LAO'S MIND IS
FINALLY CLEAR

GET BACK,
TREACHEROUS
ONE

UMMMMPHHH


"YOUR PLAN WAS A
BOLD AND BRAZEN
ONE, TO BE SURE.

"THE FOG WAS A
MISTAKE HOWEVER "



WHEN I
FOCUSED MY
SENSES AND
CLEARED MY
HEAD

"IT BECAME
EVIDENT EXACTLY
WITH WHOM I
WAS DEALING.

A full-page comic book illustration of Shang Tsung. He is a muscular man with a goatee, wearing a black headband, yellow arm guards, and blue pants with yellow suspenders and leg warmers. He is standing on a rocky ledge, flexing his right arm and holding his left fist. The background is a gradient of purple and pink.

WELL DONE,
WARRIOR
WELL DONE

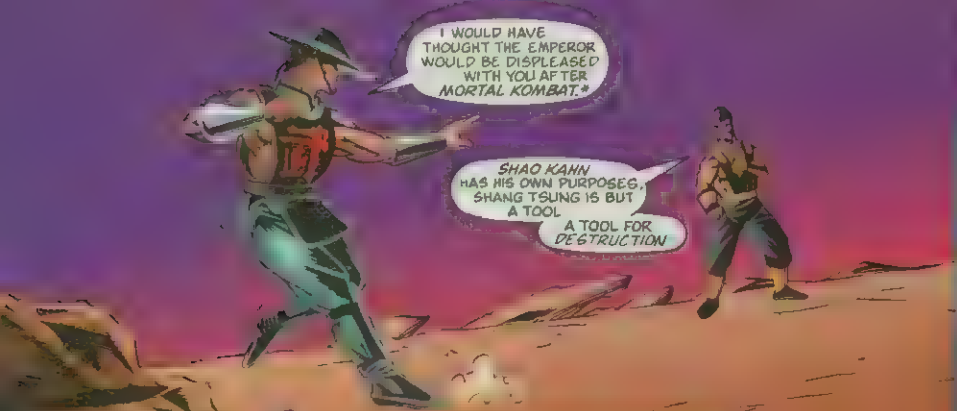
BUT I
WOULD HAVE
EXPECTED
NO LESS OF
ONE FROM THE
ORDER OF
LIGHT

BUT LET ALL THE
FALSE PRETENSES
BE DROPPED AND
THE DISGUISES
CAST AWAY.

GAZE UPON
ME IN ALL MY
RENEWED VIGOR
AND YOUTH.*

GAZE UPON
THE VIBAGE OF
SHANG TSUNG

*GAZE UPON
BATTLEWAVE
#5--DS



I WOULD HAVE
THOUGHT THE EMPEROR
WOULD BE DISPLEASED
WITH YOU AFTER
MORTAL KOMBAT.*

SHAO KAHN
HAS HIS OWN PURPOSES.
SHANG TSUNG IS BUT
A TOOL

A TOOL FOR
DESTRUCTION

* CHECK OUT BLOOD & THUNDER
ISSUES 1-6- D S



SHAO KAHN
LAUGHS AT HIS
DAUGHTER'S WEAK
PLOT AGAINST
HIM

I MUST
WARN HER OF
THE
DANGER.

IT IS TOO
LATE, MORTAL
KUNG LAO WILL
FALL THIS DAY,
AND KITANA
SHALL DIE
IGNORANT

THE ONLY
QUESTION THAT
REMAINS

IS WHAT
FORM SHANG
TSUNG SHALL USE
TO DESTROY
YOU



"TOO WEAK"



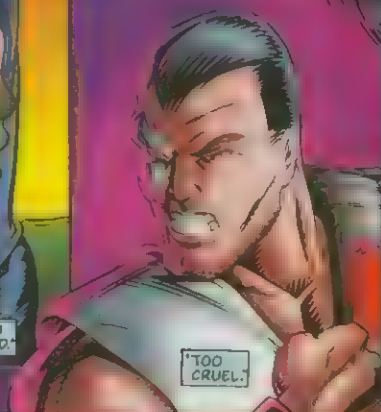
"TOO DEAD"



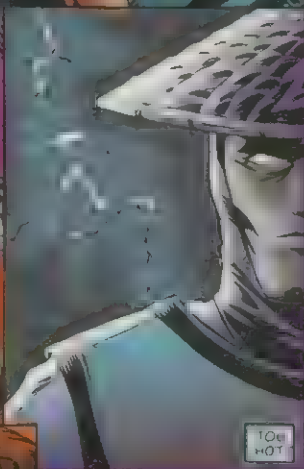
"TOO HOT"



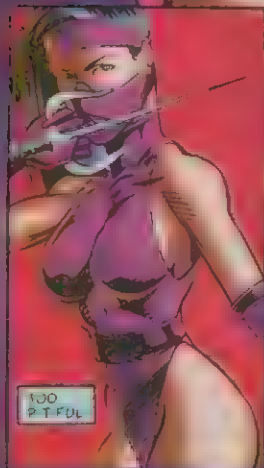
"TOO COLD"



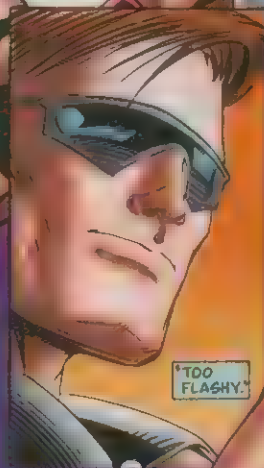
"TOO CRUEL"



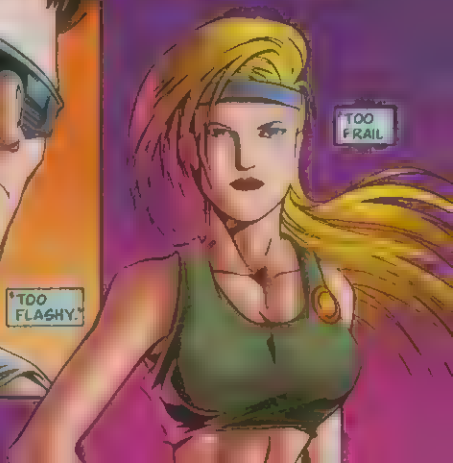
"TOO HOT"



"TOO PITIFUL"



"TOO FLASHY"



"TOO FRAIL"



AM, I BELIEVE
THIS IS MOST FITTING

YOU SHOULD
FACE DEATH AT YOUR
OWN HANDS

AT THE
HANDS OF
KUNG LAO



THIS IS
UNWISE
YOU KNOW ME,
SORCERER



YES, BUT
DO YOU KNOW
YOURSELF?



ALL TOO
WELL

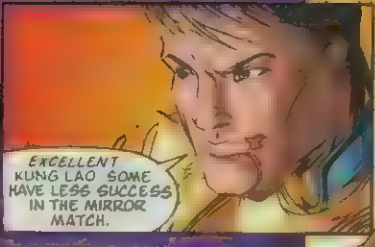


ONE OF THE
FIRST LESSONS
THEY TEACH IN
THE ORDER OF
LIGHT...


IS CONTROL
OVER ONE'S SELF

KRRRAAKK!!


UMMMPPHHH!



EXCELLENT
KUNG LAO SOME
HAVE LESS SUCCESS
IN THE MIRROR
MATCH.



BUT DO NOT
WORRY SHANG
TSUNG IS NOTHING
IF NOT
VERSATILE




I SHALL
FIND A FORM TO
WHICH YOU ARE
VULNERABLE.




NO, IT
CANNOT
BE

. CANNOT



IS THAT
TREPIDATION
I SEE IN YOUR
EYES, MY FRIEND?
DO NOT BE
AFRAID

WE ARE FAMILY,
ARE WE NOT?



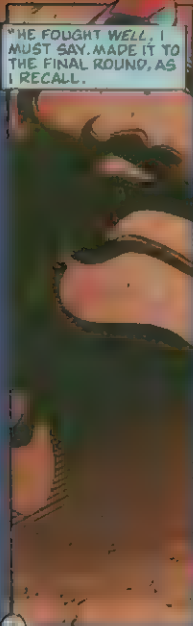
SO YOU
RECOGNIZE THE
FORM OF THE
ORIGINAL
KUNG LAO?

IT HAS BEEN
500 YEARS SINCE
HE LAST WALKED
THE EARTH.

SINCE HE
PARTICIPATED IN
MORTAL KOMBAT



NO
NO




"HE FOUGHT WELL. I
MUST SAY. MADE IT TO
THE FINAL ROUND, AS
I RECALL.

OF ALL THE GODS
SHANG TSUNG HAS
CONSUMED IN HIS
FET ME



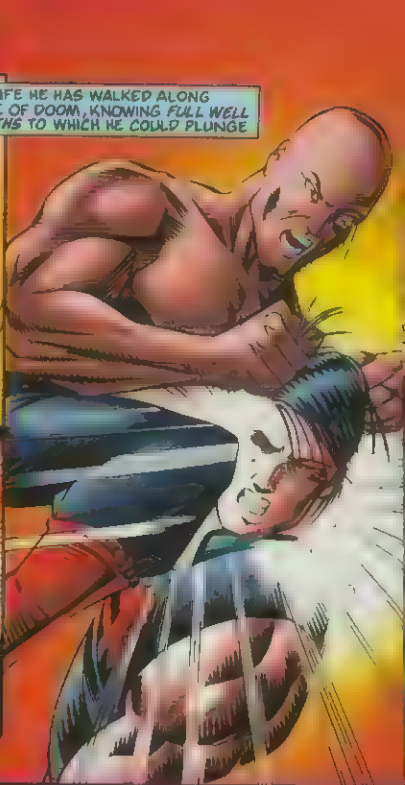
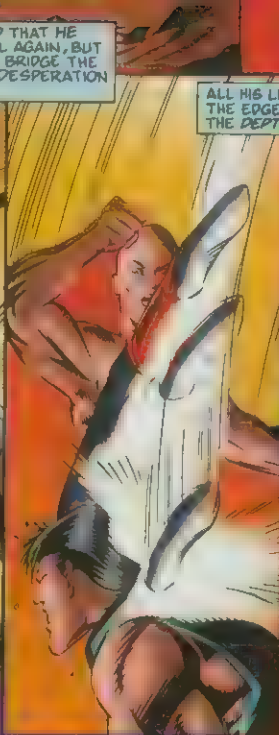
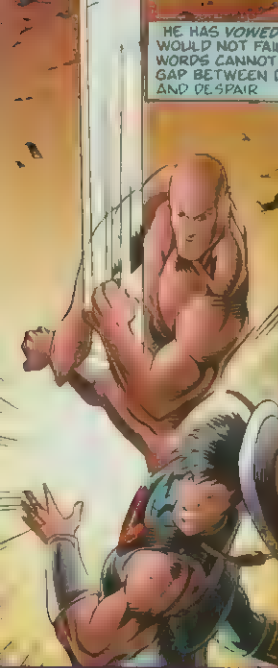
"THERE HE FACED
MY MONSTROUS
SERVANT GORO
AND MET DEFEAT
EVERLASTING.



"...KUNG LAO'S WAS
BY FAR THE MOST
SATISFYING

HE HAS VOWED THAT HE
WOULD NOT FAIL AGAIN, BUT
WORDS CANNOT BRIDGE THE
GAP BETWEEN DESPERATION
AND DESPAIR

ALL HIS LIFE HE HAS WALKED ALONG
THE EDGE OF DOOM, KNOWING FULL WELL
THE DEPTHS TO WHICH HE COULD PLUNGE



IT IS A TRUTH HE HAS
ALWAYS KNOWN. WE
MAY STOP OURSELVES
AS WE RISE.

NEVER AS
WE FALL.





WE COME
FULL CIRCLE
NOW.


I HAVE
ALREADY CONSUMED
THE SOUL OF YOUR
FOREFATHER...

...AND NOW
I SHALL TAKE
YOURS.

PREPARE
YOURSELF,
KUNG LAO.




PREPARE
YOURSELF
FOR... FOR...



I DO NOT
UNDERSTAND...

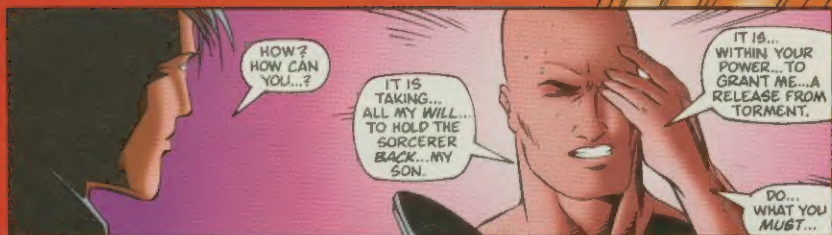
RISE, MY
SON. IT IS NOT
THE VOICE OF
THE SORCERER
YOU HEAR.

IT IS
THE VOICE
OF YOUR
FAMILY,
YOUR
HERITAGE.



...NO... YOU
MUST NOT DO THIS...
YOU MUSS...

THE VOICE OF
KUNG LAO.



HE WATCHES AS THE SOUL
OF HIS FOREFATHER CLIMBS
TOWARD THE HEAVENS.

WHATEVER ELSE TRANSPIRES
DURING THESE DARK DAYS, THIS
CANNOT BE TAKEN AWAY FROM HIM.

THE ROAD AHEAD IS FILLED WITH PERIL
AND HARDSHIP, BUT KUNG LAO SHALL
WALK IT WITH HIS HEAD HELD HIGH.

HE REALIZES NOW THAT HE HAS SPENT
SO MUCH OF HIS LIFE WORRYING
ABOUT HOW FAR HE MIGHT FALL...

...THAT HE NEVER STOPPED
TO CONSIDER HOW HIGH
HE MIGHT RISE.




END

A MORTAL KOMBAT ONE-SHOT

BARAKA

ON SALE NOW FROM MALIBU COMICS



THE MIGHTIEST
OF THE
MUTANTS
IN OUTWORLD
IN HIS OWN
TALE OF
SURVIVAL.



ALSO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE KUNG LAO
AND KITANA & MILEENA ONE-SHOT ISSUES THIS SUMMER!

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